by the All-seeing Director of the World. Rhamsis, the third King, who, for his glorious actions here below, was raised to Immortality."

THE IMPROVEMENT OF BRITISH ARTISANS.

MR. T. TWINING has been addressing Lord Shaftesbury on the subject of establishing a National Institution, having for its object to improve the efficiency of British workmen in their several trades, and more especially in those connected with the manufacturing prosperity of the country.

Mr. Twining says,—"Many years have elapsed since I first formed the idea of an institution by means of which the manual as well as intellectual education of artisans, in the more important and difficult branches of trade and manufacture, might receive a finish similar to that which a genteel education receives at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. But it is within these last two years that I have been induced to enter more earnestly into the subject, by the cordial encouragement of a friend thoroughly versed in the applications of science and art to the advancement of industry, and whose valuable assistance I always feel pleasure in gratefully acknowledging. It is through this friendly medium that my attention has been directed to the efforts made in continental countries to improve the abilities of their respective workmen, and particularly to the successful operations of an institute analogous to the one I had contemplated, by which the Prussian mechanic has been raised, in a short lapse of time, from comparative insignificance to a remarkable degree of efficiency; and it is thus that I have become impressed with the urgency of making counterpart exertions on our side, and with the importance of turning to good account the peculiarly favourable combination of circumstances offered at the present time." He proposes,—

"1. That in all large towns throughout the kingdom, and especially in the manufacturing districts, evening schools shall be established, where journeymen may acquire, during their apprenticeship, such branches of practical knowledge as have a direct bearing on their several vocations.

2. That a sufficient degree of connection shall be maintained between these local schools and the Central Institute below mentioned, to ensure uniformity of purpose, and regularity of working.

3. That a Central Institute or College, on a large scale, shall be founded under royal charter, in or near the metropolis,* and sufficiently endowed to secure its permanent efficiency.

4. That journeymen having completed their ordinary apprenticeship, and who can sufficiently prove their abilities in a preliminary examination, shall be admitted to pursue, as inmates of the college, a regular course of appropriate studies, theoretical and practical.

5. That final examinations shall test their attainments, and that degrees and diplomas shall class and stamp their abilities, for their own advantage, if deserving, and for the security of those who might become their employers.

6. That a Museum of Industry, similar to the *Musée d'Industrie* formed at Brussels under the able management of M. Jobard, shall be established at, or in connection with, the Trades' Institute, and steps taken to ensure the annual acquisition of specimens, models, or diagrams, illustrating all the latest improvements and inventions which may offer practical advantages."

Mr. Twining suggests that a committee of leading men be formed for the purpose of carrying out such a plan as the above, and that a portion of the peculiarly appropriate materials so opportunely brought together within the Crystal Palace, should be turned to account for the formation of the Museum of Industry; and also that the Great Exhibition should bequeath something out of the abundance of its wealth towards the erection and endowment of an Institute which would be so legitimate a monument of its existence and of its benefits.

Our readers will remember a similar proposition first made public in our pages some time ago.

THE CITY OF DRESDEN HOSPITAL.

IT is a melancholy fact to consider, that it is in the less populous towns, where human sufferings are *least*, that they can be *best* alleviated and amended to. A short description of the above splendid establishment will be interesting in many respects. When the kingdom of Saxony was at its highest pitch of prosperity, a number of splendid public and private buildings sprung up, amongst which the *Palais Marcolini* was one of the most conspicuous. It is situated in a very healthy suburb of Dresden, the *Friedrichstadt*, and reached by the famous Ostra Allée, trees a hundred years old. It is entirely built of stone; consisting of a main building extending around a fine court, separated from the street by a spacious gateway. Having been erected by the minister of Frederic Augustus, it was deemed worthy to be the residence of Napoleon whenever he chanced to be in Dresden, and it was (to anticipate our narrative), in the room occupied by the *surgical armamentarium*, that the famous last interview between Napoleon and Metternich took place. However, events took another turn, palaces became at a discount, and the corporation of Dresden hit on the idea of purchasing the Palace Marcolini—for the *city hospital*.

Thus, according to the plan of a nobleman's mansion, none of those huge, dismal, long wards were *possible*, but the poor sick find themselves in spaces most cheerfully and conveniently laid out and arranged. None of the wards (saloons and rooms) hold more than twenty-five beds: the walls are above twenty feet high, the doors and windows ample, made with every accuracy and perfection possible. As in many German hospitals, the poor patients are not burthened with continual scrubbing and scouring (when the medical officers *are absent*), but a substantial oak floor, painted with varnish, requires nothing but an occasional wiping with a wet cloth: cheerful, wide corridors lead to the different chambers, also those most substantially *windowed*, excluding any draught or cold of winter. In accordance with this substantial architectural substratum, the Dresden corporation has furnished the whole establishment. The bathing-place is splendid, containing most powerful douche baths, applicable in every direction and to every part of the suffering body. The two rooms of the dispensary would do honour to the first pharmaceutical establishment of a wealthy town, and this department is under control of the celebrated Dr. Struve. The kitchen, pantry, laundry, &c. are all in keeping with those departments already mentioned. It might be well imagined that a Count Marcolini would not have a mansion without a park, and this also has been acquired, and added to the Dresden Hospital. Like the whole establishment, the garden also is divided into a department for the male and female patients, each comprising about two acres of land, with beautiful avenues of large wild chesnut trees, extensive grass plots, of which that in the female department is used for bleaching the clothes of the establishment. All this is well laid out, with a *basin* in each department, the walks gravelled, &c. It may be also observed, that the male and female portions of the gardens are separated by an avenue of rose-plants, some 18 feet high. Around and behind these gardens, destined for the general patients,—is the remainder of the once huge park, 30 acres and more, in which there is a most ornamental fountain adorned with tritons and other sculpture, which had cost large sums.

And here we have to observe, that the Dresden City Hospital does not only comprise a sanatorium, but one at various graduated prices. The highest normal price in this department is two *thalers* (six shillings) daily, for which a patient receives a very well furnished room, and every attention and care required But this highest rate is but seldom demanded or paid, and with a little introduction a patient may have also a separate room and adequate comfort, at the rate of one *gulden* (two shillings) a-day. Such patients will then, with permission of the medical officer, have the wholesome nourishment of the kitchen, and in consequence to the convalescent &c. The ordinary charge made to the general patients is ten silbergroschen (1s.) per day. And in this place it will be convenient to state the manner, in which patients are admitted in the German (continental) hospitals, which are all *public* establishments. If a person is a native or a resident of the place where he seeks admission in the hospital, he or she has only to apply to the common councillor or other officer appointed for the purpose. The same is the case with all natives, and the expenses of their cure are borne by the parish or commune to which they belong. Foreigners, viz., all persons born or domiciled beyond the country wherein the hospital lies, apply to the police office; here they are examined by the medical officer, and on his approval addressed to the hospital. The whole transaction does not last but the time absolutely necessary for the few formalities; and if a person is very ill, he is conveyed in a fiacre. The German police-officers, on whom such onerous and ambiguous duties are imposed by the governments, are very willing to perform conjointly similar acts of humanity and benevolence. There exists that sentimental custom in the Dresden hospital, that a bell hung on a little turret is rung as often as a patient arrives in the house — a delicate show of attention on the part of the establishment. In the last republican outbreak the hospital was of great advantage to the wounded of both parties, and it has been also subsequently used for keeping those state prisoners whose bodies or minds required attention. Dr. Herz, the husband of Madame Herz, the inventor of the *Children's Gardens*, long stayed there. The only thing patients seem to complain of, is a too restricted and dry dietary—a thing easy to be improved in the quiet of the present time.

AN IRON BALL-ROOM FOR PRINCE ALBERT.

A SPACIOUS apartment of corrugated iron has been constructed by Messrs. E. T. Bellhouse, of Manchester, for the Royal residence at Balmoral. It appears that Prince Albert's attention was directed to the model of an iron house deposited by Mr. Bellhouse in the Great Exhibition, and the result was, after some investigations, an order in July last to provide a building for Balmoral, to be used as a ball-room, studio for artists, or room for private theatricals, as the case may be.

The dimensions of the structure are as follow:—Length, 60 feet; breadth, 24 feet; height to the eaves, 10 feet; to the central ridge, 17 feet. The foundation consists of a framework of timber, the section of which is 8 inches by 6 inches—laid perfectly level and true—and running beneath the sides and ends of the erection. Upon this framework are bolted the base plates of cast-iron upright pilasters, at intervals of about 8 feet. The pilasters at the sides are prepared at the top to receive the feet of wrought-iron principals for the roof, which extend from the pilasters at the front to those at the back, forming a strong and complete tie across the building. A series of angle-iron ribs running lengthwise along the erection connect the principals together, and receive the sheets of the roof, which are of corrugated iron, in sheets of about 7 feet by 2 feet 2 inches, the corrugations running vertically from the ridge to the gutter of the eaves. The ends of these sheets meeting at the angle of the ridge, are connected together by a cast-iron ridge capping, to which they are bolted. The upper line of the ridge is ornamented by iron castings of the fleur-de-lis pattern, which gives a neat effect to the roof. The lower ends of the roof sheets are bolted to the inner edge of the gutter, which is prepared to fit the corrugations and make a joint. The sheets forming the front, back, and ends of the erection are placed in the contrary direction to those of the roof, that is to say, the direction of the corrugation is from pilaster to pilaster, horizontal. The sides of the pilasters are prepared in such a way as to receive the ends of the corrugated sheets. The lower edges of the side sheets are bolted to moulded base-plates, which are

To learn more about Archive-It and PDF, visit http://www.archive-it.org/